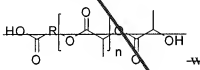
Amendments to the Claims

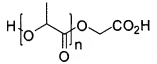
1. (Currently amended) A medical article comprising an implantable substrate having a coating, the coating including a polymer comprising a carboxylated poly(lactic acid), or a block-copolymer having at least one moiety comprising a carboxylated poly(lactic acid),

~~wherein the carboxylated poly(lactic acid) comprises a structure of~~



~~where R is a group from a hydroxyl acid HO-R-COOH~~

wherein the carboxylated poly(lactic acid) is of formula A:



Formula A,

wherein the molecular weight of the carbocylated poly(lactic acid) is between about 1,000 and about 20,000.

2. (Original) The medical article of Claim 1, wherein the medical article is a stent.

3. (Original) The medical article of Claim 1, wherein poly(lactic acid) includes poly(D-lactic acid), poly(L-lactic acid), or poly(D,L-lactic acid).

4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) The medical article of Claim 1, wherein the block-copolymer includes a diblock-copolymer, a triblock-copolymer, or mixtures thereof.

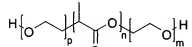
6. (Original) The medical article of Claim 5, wherein the diblock-copolymer and triblock-copolymer include at least one biocompatible moiety.

7. (Original) The medical article of Claim 6, wherein the biocompatible moiety is poly(ethylene glycol).

8. (Original) The medical article of Claim 6, wherein the biocompatible moiety is selected from a group consisting of poly(ethylene oxide), poly(propylene glycol), poly(tetramethylene glycol), polyethylene oxide-co-propylene oxide), ε-caprolactone, ß-butyrolactone, δ-valerolactone, glycolide, poly(N-vinyl pyrrolidone), poly(acrylamide methyl propane sulfonic acid) and salts thereof, poly(styrene sulfonate), sulfonated dextran, polyphosphazenes, poly(orthoesters), poly(tyrosine carbonate), hyaluronic acid or derivatives thereof, copolymers of poly(ethylene glycol) with hyaluronic acid or derivatives thereof, heparin, copolymers of polyethylene glycol with heparin, a graft copolymer of poly(L-lysine) and poly(ethylene glycol).

9-12. (Canceled)

13. (Withdrawn) The medical article of Claim 5, wherein the triblock-copolymer is a copolymer having a formula



wherein each of "n," "m," and "p" is an integer.

14. (Withdrawn) The medical article of Claim 13, wherein "n" has a value between about 21 and about 278, "m" has a value between about 11 and about 682, and "p" has a value between about 11 and about 682.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Original) The medical article of Claim 1, wherein the coating further includes a biologically absorbable polymer.

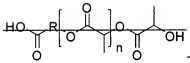
17. (Original) The medical article of Claim 16, wherein the biologically absorbable polymer is selected from a group consisting of poly(hydroxybutyrate), poly(hydroxyvalerate), poly(hydroxybutyrate-co-valerate), poly(caprolactone), poly(lactide-co-glycolide),

poly(ethylene-glycol)-block-poly(butyleneterephthalate), poly(ethylene-glycol)-block-poly(butylene terephthalate)-block-poly(ethylene-glycol), poly(butyleneterephthalate)-block-poly(ethylene-glycol)-block poly(butyleneterephthalate), poly(ethylene-glycol)-block-poly(caprolactone), poly(ethylene-glycol)-block-poly(caprolactone)-block-poly(ethylene-glycol), poly(caprolactone)-block-poly(ethylene-glycol)-block-poly(caprolactone), and blends thereof.

18. (Original) The medical article of Claim 1, additionally comprising a biologically active agent incorporated into the coating.

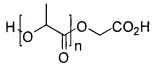
19. (Currently amended) A method for fabricating a medical article, the method including depositing a coating on at least a portion of an implantable substrate, the coating including a polymer comprising a carboxylated poly(lactic acid), or a block-copolymer having at least one moiety comprising a carboxylated poly(lactic acid)),

~~wherein the carboxylated poly(lactic acid) comprises a structure of~~



~~where R is a group from a hydroxyl acid HO-R-COOH~~

wherein the carboxylated poly(lactic acid) is of formula A:



Formula A,

wherein the molecular weight of the carbocylated poly(lactic acid) is between about 1,000 and about 20,000.

20. (Original) The method of Claim 19, wherein the medical article is a stent.

21. (Original) The method of Claim 19, wherein poly(lactic acid) includes poly(D-lactic acid), poly(L-lactic acid), or poly(D,L-lactic acid).

22. (Canceled)

23. (Original) The method of Claim 19, wherein the block-copolymer includes a diblock-copolymer, a triblock-copolymer, or mixtures thereof.

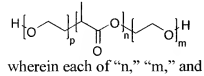
24. (Original) The method of Claim 23, wherein the diblock-copolymer and triblock-copolymer include at least one biocompatible moiety.

25. (Original) The method of Claim 24, wherein the biocompatible moiety is poly(ethylene glycol).

26. (Original) The method of Claim 24, wherein the biocompatible moiety is selected from a group consisting of poly(ethylene oxide), poly(propylene glycol), poly(tetramethylene glycol), poly(ethylene oxide-co-propylene oxide), ϵ-caprolactone, ß-butyrolactone, δ-valerolactone, glycolide, poly(N-vinyl pyrrolidone), poly(acrylamide methyl propane sulfonic acid) and salts thereof, poly(styrene sulfonate), sulfonated dextran, polyphosphazenes, poly(orthoesters), poly(tyrosine carbonate), hyaluronic acid or derivatives thereof, copolymers of poly(ethylene glycol) with hyaluronic acid or derivatives thereof, heparin, copolymers of polyethylene glycol with heparin, a graft copolymer of poly(L-lysine) and poly(ethylene glycol).

27-30. (Canceled)

31. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 23, wherein the triblock-copolymer is a copolymer having a formula



wherein each of "n," "m," and "p" is an integer.

32. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 31, wherein "n" has a value between about 21 and about 278, "m" has a value between about 11 and about 682, and "p" has a value between about 11 and about 682.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Original) The method of Claim 19, further including incorporating a biologically absorbable polymer.

35. (Original) The method of Claim 34, wherein the biologically absorbable polymer is selected from a group consisting of poly(hydroxybutyrate), poly(hydroxyvalerate), poly(hydroxybutyrate-co-valerate), poly(caprolactone), poly(lactide-co-glycolide), poly (ethylene-glycol)-block-poly(butyleneterephthalate), poly(ethylene-glycol)-block-poly (butylene terephthalate)-block-poly(ethylene-glycol), poly(butyleneterephthalate)-block-poly(ethylene-glycol)-block poly(butyleneterephthalate), poly(ethylene-glycol)-block-poly(caprolactone), polyethylene-glycol)-block-poly(caprolactone)-block-poly(ethylene glycol), poly(caprolactone)-block-poly(ethylene-glycol)-block-poly(caprolactone), and blends thereof

36. (Original) The method of Claim 19, additionally comprising incorporating a biologically active agent into the coating.

37. (New) A medical article comprising an implantable substrate having a coating,

wherein the coating comprises a polymer comprising a poly(lactic acid), or a block-copolymer having at least one moiety comprising a poly(lactic acid), and a bioactive agent everolimus,

wherein the polymer or the block-coplymer comprises a biocompatible moiety selected from a group consisting of poly(ethylene glycol), poly(ethylene oxide), poly(propylene glycol), poly(tetramethylene glycol), poly(ethylene oxide-co-propylene oxide), ϵ-caprolactone, ß-butyrolactone, δ-valerolactone, glycolide, poly(N-vinyl pyrrolidone), poly(acrylamide methyl propane sulfonic acid) and salts thereof, poly(styrene sulfonate), sulfonated dextran, polyphosphazenes, poly(orthoesters), poly(tyrosine carbonate), hyaluronic acid or derivatives

thereof, copolymers of poly(ethylene glycol) with hyaluronic acid or derivatives thereof, heparin, copolymers of polyethylene glycol with heparin, a graft copolymer of poly(L-lysine) and poly(ethylene glycol).

38. (New) The medical article of Claim 37, wherein the medical article is a stent.

39. (New) The medical article of Claim 37, wherein poly(lactic acid) includes poly(D-lactic acid), poly(L-lactic acid), or poly(D,L-lactic acid).

40. (New) A method for fabricating a medical article, the method including

depositing a coating on at least a portion of an implantable substrate, the coating including a polymer comprising a poly(lactic acid), or a block-copolymer having at least one moiety comprising a poly(lactic acid)), and

incorporating a bioactive agent everolimus,

wherein the polymer or block-coplymer comprises a biocompatible moiety selected from a group consisting of poly(ethylene glycol), poly(ethylene oxide), poly(propylene glycol), poly(tetramethylene glycol), poly(ethylene oxide-co-propylene oxide), ϵ-caprolactone, ß-butyrolactone, δ-valerolactone, glycolide, poly(N-vinyl pyrrolidone), poly(acrylamide methyl propane sulfonic acid) and salts thereof, poly(styrene sulfonate), sulfonated dextran, polyphosphazenes, poly(orthoesters), poly(tyrosine carbonate), hyaluronic acid or derivatives thereof, copolymers of poly(ethylene glycol) with hyaluronic acid or derivatives thereof, heparin, copolymers of polyethylene glycol with heparin, a graft copolymer of poly(L-lysine) and poly(ethylene glycol).